

Steps to Collecting the Newborn Screening Specimen

Using the New 31 Million Series Form

1 Collection time should be between 12-48 hours after birth.

Please time specimen collection to allow for **3 hours** drying time and same day shipment to the lab whenever possible. Fill in **ALL** blanks on the Test Request Form (TRF) according to the instructions on the back.

If newborn is transferred after 12 hours of age, make sure the specimen is collected before transfer and send a TRF copy to the receiving hospital.

(Please print legibly using all capital letters, with one character per box.) Check the expiration date and **NEVER USE AN EXPIRED FORM.**

2 Before completing form, verify the name of the newborn, outpatient community pediatric care provider, and contact information with the parent or legal guardian.

3 Check that all information on the TRF is complete, accurate and matches the newborn's information.

4 Drop the blood and fill the spots on to the attached filter paper specimen collection card.

5 After collecting the blood, tear out both the sender's copy and parent's copy, which includes the privacy notification required by HIPAA. Be careful **NOT** to separate the original (white) TRF from the filter paper.

6 Give the pink and blue copies to the parent. Instruct them to give the pink copy to the baby's doctor at their first visit.

7 File the yellow sender's copy in the newborn's medical record.

8 Dry TRF specimens horizontally using a drying rack. Fold back page covering blood spots to prevent contact until dry. Keep TRF forms at room temperature. Do not expose them to heat or moisture. DO NOT transport in a plastic bag at any time.

9 Send original TRF specimens with a completed transport log to the Newborn and Prenatal Screening (NAPS) Lab.

